

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who have developed and maintained extraordinary reputations for excellence in all of their endeavors; and

Whereas, William G. Bernard of St. Louis, Missouri, has served as the highly-regarded General President of the Asbestos Workers International Union since 1989, a position of utmost responsibility which he will relinquish on May 3, 2003, in well-deserved retirement; and

Whereas, William Bernard is a native son of St. Louis who attended Washington University and Central Methodist College before joining Insulators and Asbestos Workers Local 1 in 1950 as an apprentice; and

Whereas, elected President of Local 1 in 1958, William Bernard held the office of Business Agent/Financial Secretary beginning in 1963, moved to Vice President of the Asbestos Workers International Union in 1967 and served on its General Executive Board, and became General Secretary-Treasurer of the International Union in 1972; and

Whereas, having served in the top leadership post for approximately fourteen years, William Bernard is now drawing to a close his illustrious, fifty-three-year-long association with Insulators and Asbestos Workers; and

Whereas, William Bernard also deserves notice of his ancillary work with the Boards of the Occupational Health Institute, Center to Protect Workers' Rights, and Union Labor Life Insurance Company, and with the Department of Community Medicine Advisory Committee at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City; and

Whereas, William Bernard is a dedicated family man who enjoyed a loving relationship with his wife, Alta, and their four children, Kate, Liz, Dan, and Butch, Jr., each of whom is justifiably proud of the role he fulfilled in establishing the Florence Bernard/Alta Miller Scholarship Fund in 1991:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the stellar career, impressive leadership, and wide-ranging community involvement of William Bernard during his more than half century with the Insulators and Asbestos Workers Union and to convey to him this legislative body's heartiest congratulations and best wishes upon partaking of the special opportunities and pleasures traditionally associated with the golden years of retirement; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for William G. Bernard of St. Louis, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Gina Walsh
District No. 69

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2369, adopted April 30, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker